

GREENWICH, CONN., BANK IS CLOSED; \$1,000,000 TIED UP

Loose Bookkeeping Said to
Have Caused Action of State
Bank Commissioner.

(Special to The Evening World.)
GREENWICH, Conn., Dec. 11.—The Greenwich Savings Bank, established in 1870 and the town's oldest banking institution was closed to-day by order of State Bank Commissioner Frederick P. Hoyt and N. S. Lippett. The last report of the bank officials, made three weeks ago, showed deposits of more than \$1,000,000. On the Board of Directors are some of the most influential men in town.

It is generally believed that the bank is sound, but that the bookkeeping system was obsolete. There was little excitement when the announcement of the bank's closing came, as every one believes it is only temporary. The examination based this statement:

"We are unable to verify the accounts and the discrepancy is of such a nature that in safety to all its depositors we have closed the bank and it is now in our charge. We anticipate that we shall find the condition due to errors in accounting and a fair audit is now under way. As soon as we arrive at the actual condition we shall issue our statement to the depositors." The Commissioner denied absolutely that the condition of the New Haven Railroad had anything to do with the bank's troubles. They said there was no New Haven stock among the assets. They have engaged Ernst & Ernst, certified public accountants of New York, to go over the books from the opening of the bank in 1870.

William H. Willcox is President of the bank; Charles E. Merritt, Treasurer; and William L. Ferris, Cashier. Mr. Merritt said to-day that the assets and liabilities of the bank were between \$700,000 and \$800,000. He said there was no capital stock. Mr. Willcox declared that there was nothing wrong with the bank, and predicted its early reopening. He said:

"There has been no defalcation or anything of that sort. The closing of the bank was due to the new Connecticut law, which permits examiners to close a bank while they are at work on the books. Everything will be found to be all right and the bank will resume business again shortly."

Meanwhile, no depositor can get a penny of his money.

MAY NOT TAX MRS. ASTOR.

Widow Claims Her Interest in Estate Was Pre-Nuptial.

Transfer Tax Appraiser John Cogsway may not, it was stated at the Surrogate's office to-day, oppose the application made by Mrs. Madeleine Talmadge Force Astor to have remitted the transfer tax imposed upon property given to her by the late Col. Astor before their marriage. She claims that her interest in the property was created before she became Mrs. Astor so no tax can be assessed against it. Attorney Ledyard of Carter, Ledyard & Milburn, who represents the executors, told the Surrogate that by an oversight in the appraisal of the estate the ante-nuptial gift had been included in Cogsway's report.

TAXI TRUST STILL LOSES.

More Injunctions Are Dismissed by the Appellate Division.

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court cleaned up to-day all the cases on the calendar relating to the appeals taken from the rulings of the Supreme Court in the matter of contesting the new taxicab ordinance. The Yellow Taxicab Company, the Motor Taxicab Company, the Belmont Hotel Company and Haverly's Taxicabs, Inc., were the corporations interested as against the city of New York. In each case the Appellate Division affirmed the decision of the lower court with costs, but no opinion was rendered in any case.

Asks Aid for Flood Sufferers.

CHICAGO, Dec. 11.—An appeal for help for the 400 flood sufferers of Navasota, Tex., was received to-day by Mayor Harrison from A. F. Briganza and J. N. Baylor of the Navasota Relief Committee. The appeal came in a telegram which said that the committee had attempted to get along without outside aid, but was at last compelled to confess to an urgent need of clothing, bedding and money. The Mayor said he would take action to obtain the needed supplies.

Mercury Patient in Serious Condition.

Joseph Leopold, fifty years old, of No. 188 First avenue, was removed this morning to the Harlem Hospital to be treated for bichloride of mercury poisoning. Dr. McGuire of that institution said his condition was serious. Mrs. Rosa Leopold told the police that her husband had mistaken the poison for headache tablets.

Jumped Through Train Window.

FITZESBURGH, Dec. 11.—While an eastbound Panhandle railroad passenger train was speeding forty miles an hour a short distance west of Steubenville, O., early to-day Walter E. Fredrickson, a passenger, jumped through window and was instantly killed. Fredrickson, a farmer of Red Oak, Ia., was on his way to Sweden to spend the Christmas holidays.

Pittsburgh Insider Married.

FALL RIVER, Mass., Dec. 11.—An announcement was made to-day of the marriage at Providence last night of Arthur Southwick, better known as Arthur Butler, insider on the Pittsburgh National Lottery horse race, and Miss Mary Schaeffer of this city.

First Peep at The Spring Fashions in Paris Gowns



GOWN IN WHITE
SATIN, TUNIC WHITE
MOUSSELINE, LACE
COLLAR, WAIST—
BAND SATIN
LUXE

SATIN
SKIRT,
BEADED
TUNIC
ADORNED
WITH
ROSES.
BARRAL

FORMER WIFE'S SABLE USED AS OFFSET ITEM TO HER \$7,800 CLAIM

"May Harrington," Who Sues
E. K. Stallo Turns Out to Be
Mrs. Stallo That Was.

Mystery which for months has surrounded a suit to recover on a note filed in the Supreme Court by May Harrington against Edmund K. Stallo, whose daughters inherited millions from their grandfather, Alexander McDonald, the Standard Oil director, was cleared away to-day when it became known that May Harrington was Stallo's former wife. The trial was set for Dec. 15.

Mrs. Harrington is now living in Ohio where she and Stallo were divorced a year ago this month. She is suing him for \$7,800 on a note which he gave her and which she alleges is now long overdue.

A Russian sable coat, which it is said was purchased by Stallo in Paris for his wife when she was vying with a coterie of society women in the French capital who were intent upon getting possession of the finest sable in the world, figures prominently in the suit. Mrs. Ada Borg Drouillard, recently divorced from Capt. Drouillard, U. S. A., retired, was a competitor and proved the victor. A commission selected by her found in some of the way Russian port a set of sables valued at \$30,000. These were said to be the finest sables in the world and of them Mrs. Drouillard's coat was made.

The sable coat that Mrs. Stallo got is mentioned by Stallo in his answer to his former wife's complaint. He says that he owes her nothing on the note but on the contrary she owes him \$2,000 and as one item he mentions he paid to Berdorf & Co. of Paris \$5,197 in part payment for the sable when he and his wife were abroad in 1912.

Before they were married Stallo's answer discloses that he agreed to pay

WANTS FOREIGN TROOPS WITHDRAWN FROM CHINA

Russia's Proposal for Evacuation in
Northern Section Surprises Dip-
lomats at Peking.

PEKING, China, Dec. 12.—The Russian Government to-day proposed the withdrawal of all foreign troops from the Province of Chihli, China, including the legation guard, the regiment at Tientsin and the troops guarding the railway between the sea and Peking, as it considers conditions in the north of China no longer dangerous to foreigners.

Wassily N. Kroupensky, the Russian Minister to China, made this announcement and stated further that if the other foreign nations disapproved Russia intended to act alone, withdrawing even her legation guard.

The announcement created surprise among the members of the foreign diplomatic corps, most of whom regard conditions in the north as well as in the south of China as decidedly unsettled. The subject was the foremost topic of discussion in the foreign legation quarter to-night and hints were thrown out that political designs on the part of Russia were suspected.

Plan to Restore Army Canteen.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Restoration of the "army canteen," the enlisted men's club, as a "back-fire" against the present "dry" agitation before Congress, was planned by anti-prohibitionists to-day. Representative Bartholdt indicated that the first step will be to amend the law and permit sale of beer and other beverages of low alcoholic content.

Gas Men to Frolic To-Night

The annual entertainment and ball of the Gas Companies Employees' Mutual Aid Society of New York will be held to-night at the Star Casino, One Hundred and Seventh street and Lexington avenue. The society has more than 3,000 members. The entertainment will be "Pinafore," those taking part in the production being employees of the various gas companies. The following officers of the society will be present: George B. Cartwright, Lewis B. Gawtry, Walter R. Addicks, Robert A. Carter, George W. Doane, W. Greeley Hoyt, William H. Bradley, Dr. James A. Bennett, Frank R. Barnits and H. M. Brundage.

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MYSTERY OF POISON CAKES EVAPORATES, AS THEY ARE GOOD

Wrong Mrs. Vosburgh Got
Them, That's All, and a Doc-
tor Confirmed Suspicions.

There are several Mrs. Rose Vosburgh in New York, and two of them live only a few houses apart. It was entirely owing to this simple circumstance that a poisoned cake mystery, which promised to set the machinery of the District Attorney's office and the Federal Secret Service in motion, stopped in full flight, crumbled up and was defeated like a Zeppelin airship.

The cakes simply got to the wrong Mrs. Vosburgh. She hadn't expected any; moreover, they didn't look good to her. So she suspected poison, summoned a physician, began an investigation and caused a sensation. As a matter of fact, the cakes were simple country-made cookies, as innocent as cakes may well be. Poison was as far from them as India.

NICE, PALATABLE GINGER COOKIES AND CAKE.

But here is what happened: On Monday Mrs. Rose Alice Vosburgh, a trained nurse of No. 529 Columbus avenue, received through the mail a small package of what seemed to be ginger cookies and pieces of ginger cake with frosting between its layers. The box was addressed to "Mrs. Rose Vosburgh, No. 467 Columbus avenue." Their recipient wondered who knew her name was Rose. It was, but she seldom used any save her second name, Alice, and few knew of the former. Also, the address was not hers. The postman had first tried No. 467. Finding no Mrs. Vosburgh

there he looked in the directory and discovered the very woman he wanted at No. 529. So the cakes were delivered. There was a return card on the package which said: "From Box 135, Stuyvesant, N. Y."

Mrs. Vosburgh was puzzled, but concluded that some old patient had sent the cakes. She was about to have tea as she asked Mrs. Doyle, a neighbor, to join her. Mrs. Doyle took one good look at the cakes and became suspicious. She didn't like the color of the frosting and the white dust on the cookies didn't look like sugar to her.

Dr. R. S. Buckley, No. 455 West Thirty-fourth street, was called. He said it was well to be suspicious of cakes. He even said that part of them seemed to him to be heavily charged with poison. He took samples and announced that he would have them analyzed and submit the case to the District Attorney in case poison were found.

Then Mrs. Rose Alice Vosburgh wrote the postmaster at Stuyvesant, N. Y., a town of which she had never heard, by the way, and asked who used box 135. The postmaster scribbled on her note that the box was used by Alex. Van Allen, a farmer who got his mail only once a week. Mrs. Vosburgh immediately wrote to Van Allen to see if he or any one knew who had sent her the cakes.

Here the case rested until this morning, when a newspaper account of the mysterious poisoned cakes appeared.

OWNERS OF THE CAKES READ ABOUT THE MYSTERY.

Enter now the second Mrs. Rose Vosburgh, whose address is No. 967 Columbus avenue, or not far from the home of Mrs. Rose Alice Vosburgh. Mrs. Rose Vosburgh, No. 2, was at breakfast with her son, Pratt B. Vosburgh, an advertising agent connected with Boy's City Dispatch, No. 19 Hickman street. Young Vosburgh was reading the morning paper. Suddenly he looked up and blurted aloud: "He passed the paper to his mother and she joined in the cackling."

"Those must be the cakes Cousin Florence said she would send," said Mrs. Vosburgh.

"Of course," said his mother. "She probably misaddressed them." So Pratt Vosburgh hurried to the office of the District Attorney to clear matters up. He found Deacon Murphy, Assistant District Attorney and head of the Homicide Bureau.

So the poison mystery evaporated.

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